Appendix II.

[Vide answer to Starred Question No. 1677 asked by Sri A. A. Rasheed at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 21st September 1961 page, 339 supra.]

A.—(*a*) Power cut was imposed in the State during May, this year (1961).

(*b*) (1) A 30 per cent (thirty per cent) power cut on supplies to consumers in the areas fed with power received from the Kerala State was imposed with effect from the 1st May 1961. This was consequent on a similar cut imposed by the Kerala Government on the supplies to this State. This cut was completely removed with effect from the 31st May 1961 consequent on the lifting of the power cut imposed by the Kerala Government.

(2) With effect from the 16th May 1961, the following restrictions in the supply of power in the State excluding the areas referred to in item (1) above was ordered :—

(i) A 50 per cent (fifty per cent) cut in consumption on all industrial power supplies both H.T. and L.T. and on supplies to commercial and non-commercial establishments consuming more than 1,000 units per month in all the Distribution Systems, viz., Madras, Vellore, Mettur, Pykara, Tiruchirappalli, Madurai and Tirunelveli Electricity Systems fed from the Madras Grid including the areas of licenses and municipalities taking bulk supply from the grid, with the modification that the cut will be limited to 40 per cent (forty per cent) in the Madras Electricity System.

Exemptions.—All other supplies [(i.e.) supplies not listed in item (i) above] including agricultural, domestic and services declared as essential, and supplies to tea factories, cement factories, rice mills, existing fertilizer factories at Ranipet and Avadi were exempted from the power cut.

(ii) A ban on the connecting up of new loads for industrial and agricultural purposes.

The 50 per cent cut referred to above was reduced with effect from the 27th May 1961, to 25 per cent in the Hydro-Electric Areas and to 15 per cent in the Madras Electricity System. The cut and ban were subsequently lifted completely with effect from the 1st June 1961.

(*c*) The reasons for the imposition of power cut are two-fold. The first is the depletion of the Hydro Reservoirs due to failure or insufficient rainfall and the second is the ever increasing demand for power in the State. To combat these drawbacks steps are being taken to install more thermal stations. The question of establishing an atomic power station in the State has also been taken up with the Government of India in addition to hydel schemes that have been and are being taken up for execution under the Third Plan.